

الحيات مسخ الجن صورة كما مسخت القردة والخنازير من بني

إسرائيل

“Snakes are the forms of the transmutations of the shape of the jinn in the same way that the apes and swine were transmutations of the tribe of Israel.”

Satan is able to flow in the descendants of Adam like blood flows through a vein.

In *Sahih al-Bukhari* and *Sahih Muslim* it is recorded that the Prophet (peace be upon him) said,

إِنَّ الشَّيْطَانَ يَجْرِي مِنَ الْإِنْسَانِ مَجْرَى الدَّمِّ

“Verily, Satan flows in the human like the flowing of the blood.” It is also recorded in the *two Sahihs* that Safiyya bint Hayy, the wife of the Prophet, said, “The Messenger of Allah was making ‘seclusion’ (*itikaaf*) in the mosque and I brought him his loin cloth during the night. We talked and then I stood to leave. He also stood with me and walked with me. I was living in the house of Usama ibn Zaid. Two men from the Ansar passed by us. When the Prophet (peace be upon him) saw them he went quickly to them and said, ‘It is only Safiyya bint Hayy.’ They said, ‘May Allah be glorified, Oh Messenger of Allah [we had no bad suspicion about you].’ The Prophet (peace be upon him) told them,

¹ This hadith was recorded by Tabaraani and Abu ash-Shaikh in *Al-Udhma* with a *sahih* chain. See Muhammad Nasir al-Din al-Albani, *Silsilaat al-Ahadith al-Sahiba*, vol. 3, p. 103. [That is the reference given in the text in Arabic. In reality, it is vol. 4, p. 439. Furthermore, al-Albani makes the following important point on p. 440, “Know that this hadith does not mean that the snakes that are in existence today are from the transmuted jinn. Instead, what it means is that some jinn were transmuted into snakes, as what happened to those Jews who were transmuted into apes and swine. However, they did not procreate, as is stated in another authentic hadith, ‘Verily, Allah did not make for any of the transmuted being procreation or posterity.’ In fact, apes and swine were in existence before that.”—JZ]

إِنَّ الشَّيْطَانَ يَجْرِي مِنَ الْإِنْسَانِ مَجْرَى الدَّمِّ وَإِنِّي خَشِيتُ أَنْ يُلْقِيَ فِي
أَنْفُسِكُمْ شَيْئًا

‘Satan flows in the human like the flowing of the blood. I feared that he would cast some evil allegation in your souls.’“

Their weaknesses and inabilities

In some aspects, the jinn and devils are strong while in others they are weak. Allah says,

إِنَّ كَيْدَ الشَّيْطَانِ كَانَ ضَعِيفًا

“Verily, the plot of Satan is weak” (*al-Nisaa* 76). We shall mention some of those aspects that Allah and His Messenger (peace be upon him) have informed us about.

They have no power over the pious worshippers of Allah

Allah did not give Satan the ability to compel mankind or force them to misguidance and disbelief. Allah says in the Quran,

إِنَّ عِبَادِي لَيْسَ لَكَ عَلَيْهِمْ سُلْطَانٌ وَكَفَى بِرَبِّكَ
وَكَيْلًا

“Lo! My faithful bondsmen- over them you have no power, and your Lord suffices as their guardian” (*al-Israa* 65). And He also said,

وَمَا كَانَ لَهُ عَلَيْهِمْ مِنْ سُلْطَانٍ إِلَّا لِنَعْلَمَ مَنْ يُوْمِنُ بِالْآخِرَةِ مِمَّنْ هُوَ مِنْهَا فِي شَكٍّ

“And Satan indeed found his calculation true concerning them, for they follow him, all save a group of true believers. And he had no warrant whatsoever against them, save that We would know him who believes in the Hereafter from him who is in doubt thereof” (*Saba* 20-21). The meaning is that Satan has no means of mastery over them, either through proofs against them or through any power over them. And Satan, himself, recognizes that fact as one can see in the following verse,

قَالَ رَبِّ بِمَا أَغْوَيْتَنِي لَأُزَيِّنَنَّ لَهُمْ فِي الْأَرْضِ
وَلَأُغْوِيَنَّهُمْ أَجْمَعِينَ ﴿٣٩﴾ إِلَّا عِبَادَكَ مِنْهُمُ الْمُخْلَصِينَ

“He [Satan] said: My Lord! Because you have sent me astray, I verily shall adorn the path of error for them in the earth, and shall mislead them every one, save such of them as are your perfectly devoted slaves” (*al-Hijr* 39-40).

His mastery is over those humans and jinn who are pleased with his ideas and those who are pleased to follow and obey him. Allah has said,

إِنَّ عِبَادِي لَيْسَ لَكَ عَلَيْهِمْ سُلْطَانٌ إِلَّا مَنِ اتَّبَعَكَ مِنَ الْغَاوِينَ

“Lo! As for My slaves, you have no power over any except such of the froward as follow you” (*al-Hijr* 42). On the Day of Resurrection, Satan will say to those who followed him in this world to misguidance and destruction,